STARS ALIGN

Coco Gauff will join Serena Williams at Fed Cup event in Everett

SPORTS > B1



Kobe Bryant's pilot was OK'd to fly in fog

NATION & WORLD > A2

Swedish workers set to start 3-day strike today

NORTHWEST > A8

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Questions mount about new coronavirus

Q&A | How is the virus spread? Should I wear a mask? We took your queries to the experts.

By RYAN BLETHEN
Seattle Times staff reporter

As a new type of coronavirus rages through China and spreads to other countries, including the United States, the public understandably has a lot of questions about the illness and how to avoid it.

As of late Monday afternoon, more than 4,500 people had been infected and 106 had died, with the vast majority of cases in China. Five people in the United States have been confirmed to have the coronavirus, including a Snohomish County man who fell ill after returning from a trip to Wuhan almost two weeks ago — before China or the United States had implemented travel restrictions to stem the outbreak.

We've been asking you, our readers, what you want to know about the novel coronavirus, which is also being called the Wuhan coronavirus, and we're taking your questions to health care professionals. Below are

See > Q&A, A6

Facebook, Google and Twitter scramble to stop misinformation about outbreak

By TONY ROMM
The Washington Post

The rapid spread of the coronavirus in China and around the world has sent Facebook, Google and Twitter scrambling to prevent a different sort of malady — a surge of half-truths and outright falsehoods about the deadly outbreak.

The three Silicon Valley tech giants long have struggled to curtail dangerous health disinformation, including posts, photos and videos that seek to scare people away from much-needed vaccines. But the companies face their great test in the wake of a potential pandemic, now that the coronavirus has infected 4,500 people in China, killing at least 106, while sickening another five in the United States.

Already, Facebook and its peers have tried to battle back pervasive conspiracy theories, including a hoax that wrongly claims U.S. government officials secretly created or obtained a patent for the illness. Some of the misinformation has circulated through private Facebook groups — channels that are hard for researchers to monitor in real-time — that came into existence after news first broke about the coronavirus.

STOCKS have worst day since October over worries about the illness > A13

See > CHINA, A7

'Energize your space': Thousands of pieces of public art turn city into a gallery



KEN LAMBERT / THE SEATTLE TIMES

New Seattle City Councilmember Andrew Lewis, left, considers art options for his office Thursday, Jan. 9, in Seattle at the city's Art Service Center. Lewis looks at "Big II," a print by Barbara Noah, left, which is held by Benjamin Gale-Schreck; and "A New World," a painting by Long Gao, held by Blake Haygood. Gale-Schrake and Haygood are with the city's Office of Arts & Culture.

By DANIEL BEEKMAN
Seattle Times staff reporter

Nearly every time Seattle has built or renovated something in the past 40 years, the city has used 1% of the project's cost to buy art — and usually that art is displayed on site.

There's the skyscraping installation next to the new Denny Substation that looks like a transmission tower mashed up with a tree, and there's the tangle of orange rebar outside North Seattle's new dump that's supposed to conjure the topography of Wallingford. There are about 400 works like that.

But art can't be displayed at some capital projects, like electric work overhead and sewer work underground. So Seattle also uses money set aside under its 1% For Art law to buy paintings, photographs and sculptures that decorate city offices and are stored in a dedicated, vaultlike room below the Seattle Municipal Tower.

Jammed with works serious and whimsi-

See > ARTWORK, A11



KEN LAMBERT / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Sculptures, paintings and prints are among the kinds of art stored at the city's Art Service Center, waiting to be rotated to public spaces.

Mood shifts as White House pivots to neutralize Bolton, book

By ASHLEY PARKER, JOSH DAWSEY AND MATT ZAPOTOSKY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump and his allies are moving to undermine the credibility of former national-security adviser John Bolton while preparing to fight his ability to testify during the Senate impeachment trial, according to White House aides and outside advisers familiar with the strategy.

As the president's lawyers were defending his actions concerning Ukraine on the Senate floor Monday, Trump aides and allies were privately girding for the growing possibility that witnesses will be allowed to appear. They scrambled to determine which testimony they could block and which witnesses they should potentially call, the aides said.

The shift in the White House's impeachment strategy comes after news emerged Sunday evening that a book by Bolton alleges that the president directly tied the holdup of nearly $400 million in military aid for Ukraine to investigations into former Vice President Joe Biden — a potential 2020 rival — and his son Hunter Biden.

Among White House aides and Capitol Hill Republicans, there was a growing brew of anxiety, unease and frustration, as well as the sense that the allegations contained in Bolton's book, which is due in March, could push the Senate impeachment trial into next week, yielding more damaging disclosures for Trump as he heads into this year's reelection contest.

Though the White House continued to push aggressively Monday against witness testimony — especially from Bolton — some aides are now convinced that they will lose that battle. Bolton has offered to testify to the Senate if he is subpoenaed.

White House Counsel Pat Cipollone has privately insisted to senators and allies that the White House did not know Bolton was going to make such an accusation in the book. The

See > IMPEACH, A4

Citing their 'moral responsibility,' Amazon employees risk jobs to speak out on climate

By BENJAMIN ROMANO
Seattle Times business reporter

More than 350 Amazon employees defied a company ban on unapproved external communications to call out what they see as the retail and technology giant's still-inadequate approach to the climate crisis.

In a Medium post and news release Sunday and video released online Monday, the employees praised the steps that Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos committed the company to last September, but railed against what one called Amazon's "unconscionable" business with the oil and gas industry. They also objected to an updated external communications policy, provided to employees in September, a day after the Amazon Employees for Climate Justice group announced plans for a walkout as part of the Global Climate Strike.

They called the policy a "reprehensible overreach" and asserted a "moral responsibility" to speak out on climate.

Earlier this month, members of Amazon Employees for Climate Justice said Amazon had threatened to fire at least two outspoken employees for violating the external communications policy, in what many of them view as a crackdown on dissent within the corporate ranks.

Undeterred by the apparent risk to their jobs with one of the world's most valuable companies, hundreds of employees signed their names and titles to pointed critiques and calls for change.

In the Medium post, they praised the steps Amazon has taken so far

See > AMAZON, A5

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